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422 Rec'd PCT

19 MAY 2000

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

**IN RE APPLICATION OF:**  
Pierre Nicaise

**GROUP ART UNIT:** To Be Assigned

**SERIAL NO.:** To be Assigned

**EXAMINER:** To be Assigned

**FILED:** Of even date

**ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.:** 35615.180

**FOR:** PROCESS FOR ENCODING  
SPEECH AND TERMINALS FOR  
IMPLEMENTING THE PROCESS

BOX PCT  
Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

*Delete  
Spec.  
for  
Substitute*

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Preliminary to the examination of the above identified application, please  
amend the application as follows:

**In the Specification:**

Insert, at line 25, after "restored.", the following: "The article, "Speaker normalization algorithms for very low-rate speech coding", of Roucos et al, ICASSP 84, Vol. 1, 19-21 March 1984, page 1.11 to 1.14, XP002073267, SAN DIEGO, CA, US, and the patent DE-A-3 416 238 disclose the progressive adaptation of a library of voice signals to those of a new speaker. The differences found between these signals serve only for the purposes of this adaptation. The speech signals are thus deformed upon restoration while the library has not reached a new state of equilibrium. WO-A-94 18 668 relates to the transmission of speech by linear prediction and does not relate to voice recognition. Patent Abstracts of Japan, Vol. 010, No. 240, JP 61 071 730A discloses recognition, apart from the speech, of a voice characteristic but without indicating either its nature, or, in particular, the

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